

Results from the PBRN Technical Assistance Survey - Standardized Responses

PBRN Activity	Current Experience (1-4)			Likely to Benefit from TA (1-6)			Ability to Provide TA (1-4)		
	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max
1. Engaging public health practitioners in research projects	0.18	-0.59	0.95	-0.37	-1.11	0.65	0.10	-0.47	0.89
2. Engaging researchers in studies of public health practice	0.41	-0.59	0.95	-0.68	-1.79	0.38	0.58	-0.47	1.90
3. Supporting communication among network members	-0.13	-1.90	1.77	0.06	-1.01	0.65	0.11	-1.16	1.90
4. Identifying, assessing, and prioritizing research questions	-0.28	-0.95	0.47	0.17	-0.16	0.47	-0.57	-1.16	-0.23
5. Designing practical and feasible research studies	0.48	-0.95	1.19	-0.44	-1.11	0.65	0.40	-0.47	0.77
6. Measuring public health practices and outcomes	-0.32	-1.90	0.59	0.16	-1.01	1.26	-0.19	-1.16	0.71
7. Identifying/accessing existing data sources for studies	0.43	-0.02	0.95	-0.32	-1.79	1.12	0.66	-0.23	1.90
8. Data collection and exchange among network members	-0.63	-1.77	0.47	0.20	-1.94	1.52	-0.42	-1.66	0.77
9. Grantsmanship in systems and services research	-0.10	-0.73	0.95	0.61	-0.36	1.52	-0.39	-1.16	0.68
10. Disseminating and translating research findings	-0.04	-0.95	0.59	0.60	-0.36	1.26	-0.27	-0.90	0.77
5b. Specific types of research designs (1-5)									
Practice variation studies				0.43	0.00	1.59			
Quality improvement studies				0.63	-0.18	1.22			
Economic evaluation				0.06	-1.22	1.06			
Diffusion of innovation studies				-0.18	-1.59	1.22			
Network analysis				-0.37	-1.59	0.37			
Qualitative and case study research designs				-0.51	-1.22	0.18			
Workforce analysis and staffing studies				0.60	-0.18	1.45			
Operations research studies				-0.64	-1.94	0.68			
Natural experiments of policy change				-0.02	-1.22	1.59			
Community-based participatory research				0.00	-1.63	1.22			

Note: scores were standardized by each respondent's mean and standard deviation in order to account for differences in score distributions across respondents. Multiple respondents from the same network were reweighted so that each of the five networks receive equal weight.

Technical Assistance Items Ranked by Current Levels of Experience

PBRN Activity	Current Experience (1-4)			Likely to Benefit from TA (1-6)			Ability to Provide TA (1-4)		
	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max
5. Designing practical and feasible research studies	0.48	-0.95	1.19	-0.44	-1.11	0.65	0.40	-0.47	0.77
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Technical Assistance Items Ranked by Likelihood of Benefiting from TA

PBRN Activity	Current Experience (1-4)			Likely to Benefit from TA (1-6)			Ability to Provide TA (1-4)		
	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max
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Responses to Open-Ended Questions

Please note here your networks specific needs for assistance related to:

1. Engaging public health practitioners in research projects

How to put together a full set of technology tools

We probably do not need TA here.

What it means to be part of a research network and how to integrate with practice so that it is efficient

2. Engaging researchers in studies of public health practice

Support in enrolling faculty in regular discussions

How to Link discreet practice questions together to make a 'research worthy' project that can be funded

How to better link research results with practice implementation/adoption

How to engage researchers drawing on principles of Community-Based Participatory Research

Help with addressing the concern by some that PHSR isn't really research

3. Using traditional and/or novel technologies to support and enhance communication among group members

Help in regularly sharing experiences

We would definitely benefit from learning new and better communication methods

It would help to hear what communication technologies have been most effective for PBRNs or similar networks

Learn about alternative meeting forums

4. Identifying, assessing, and prioritizing research questions related to existing PHSR research agendas

Help in distinguishing between research questions and TA questions

How to create a positive dialog around priority setting differences of researchers and practitioners

Increased knowledge about existing PHSR research agendas.

A review of the methodology for prioritizing research agendas

The Colorado PH Reauthorization act may be a useful venue for learning for other PBRNs

5. Designing practical and feasible research studies

Assistance with Developing and editing initial research designs

Provided expert consultation on the design/implementation of community-based participatory research and quality improvement efforts

expert consultation on economic evaluations for regionalization of public health services and quality improvement studies

6. Developing approaches for measuring public health practices, performance and outcomes

How to blend and use available data to enhance performance measures

How to define synergy between certain performance measure

How to assess the strengths and weaknesses of local public health departments

On the administration of the National Performance Standards for Local Public Health

How to identify strategies that can take us from performance to outcomes

7. Identifying and accessing existing data sources for PHSR studies

Unable to identify needs at the current moment

8. Approaches for data collection and/or data exchange among network members for PHSR studies

Providing status updates for the participating networks will be helpful

Identifying resources for data collection

How to create a common foundation of understanding how to collect data

9. Developing and appropriately targeting PHSSR research proposals that maximize the likelihood of funding

Help with identifying, analyzing and advocating for funding that is aligned with our PBRN needs
How to develop a common understanding among network members of PHSSR research would be helpful

Identifying an initial understanding of the current partnerships that exist between LHD to address core services

10. Disseminating and translating research findings to public health practitioners and/or policymakers

Working with the other networks to establish some best-practices
How to translate research findings and assure that they are implemented in practice
Engaging researchers at the CTSA (NIH) as TA consultants would be helpful
Identifying better ways to translate research findings into formats for policymakers
Identifying an expert consultant to provide TA on public health advocacy

Other: Please note other topics for which your PBRN would like to request technical assistance and names of

How to use quality improvement tools to facilitate consensus building and decision-making among practitioners and local government
How to engage local government in the process of rethinking and improving public health services